

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 2-4 and 8-26 were previously pending in the application. Claims 2-4 and 8-26 are canceled, and new claims 27-52 are added herein. Assuming the entry of this amendment, claims 27-52 are now pending in the application. The Applicant hereby requests further examination and reconsideration of the application in view of the foregoing amendments and these remarks.

Support for new claims 27-52 is found as follows:

<u>New Claims</u>	<u>Support</u>
27-30, 35, 38-41, 46, 49-51	Figs. 2, 3
31, 42	Figs. 4, 5, 7
32, 43	Figs. 5, 7
33, 44	Fig. 6
34, 45	Figs. 2, 3; Specification, page 8, lines 6-8
36-37, 47-48	Fig. 4
52	Figs. 2, 3, 5, 7; Specification, page 8, lines 6-8

Objection to Drawings

In paragraph 3 of the final office action, the Examiner objected to the drawings under 37 CFR 1.83(a) for failing to show every feature of the invention specified in the claims. In particular, the Examiner stated that the "off-core and memory-mapped registers" must be shown. Since the now-pending claims do not explicitly recite these features, the Applicant submits that the objections to the drawings are moot. By way of further response, the Applicant submits that Fig. 5 shows an exemplary implementation of "off-core" signal unit 33 of Fig. 3, while Figs. 5-6 show an exemplary implementation of "memory-mapped" signal unit 23 of Fig. 2.

In view of the foregoing, the Applicant submits that the objection to the drawings has been overcome.

Rejections of Claims

In paragraph 4, the Examiner rejected claims 2-4 and 8-26 under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite. In paragraph 5, the Examiner rejected claims 2-4 and 8-26 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Brown in view of Milton. Since claims 2-4 and 8-26 have been canceled, the Applicant submits that the rejections of those claims under Sections 112, second paragraph, and 103(a) are moot.

The Applicant notes that, although the Examiner relied on Milton to reject claims, Milton has not been officially cited on either a PTO-1449 form or a PTO-892 form. As such, the Applicant submits herewith a PTO-1449 form citing Milton. The Applicant requests that the Examiner initial this PTO-1449 form to ensure that Milton is officially cited in the record.

New Claims 27-52

New claim 27 is directed to a method for applying one or more interrupt signals to one or more other processors in a system comprising a first processor and the one or more other processors. The first processor (i) generates a data signal having one or more data bits and (ii) transmits the data signal from a data port of the first processor to a signal unit external to the first processor and the one or more other

processors. The signal unit (i) converts the data signal into one or more interrupt signals, wherein each data bit in the data signal corresponds to a different interrupt signal, and (ii) transmits each interrupt signal from the signal unit to an interrupt port of an other processor.

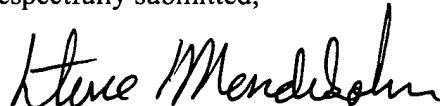
None of the cited references teaches or even suggests such a combination of features. In particular neither Brown nor Milton, whether considered alone or in combination, teaches or even suggests a signal unit that converts a data signal transmitted from the data port of one processor into one or more interrupt signals that are applied to one or more interrupt ports of one or more other processors.

As such, the Applicant submits that new claim 27 is allowable over the cited references. For similar reasons, the Applicant also submits that new claims 38, 49, and 51 are allowable over the cited references. Since claims 28-37, 39-48, 50, and 52 depend variously from claims 27, 38, 49, and 51, it is further submitted that those claims are also allowable over the cited references.

In view of the above amendments and remarks, the Applicant believes that the now-pending claims are in condition for allowance. Therefore, the Applicant believes that the entire application is now in condition for allowance, and early and favorable action is respectfully solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: 3/2/05
Customer No. 22186
Mendelsohn & Associates, P.C.
1515 Market Street, Suite 715
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19102


Steve Mendelsohn
Registration No. 35,951
Attorney for Applicant
(215) 557-6657 (phone)
(215) 557-8477 (fax)